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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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ARGENTINE FARMERS PLANT
FEWER PEANUTS

Argentine farmers planted 607,125 acres to peanuts in 1959-60, according to the first official estimate. This area is 13 percent below the 701,270 acres planted in 1958-59 and slightly below the 613,055 acres planted in 1957-58.

Assuming that about 4 percent of the planted area will not be harvested (an average of the most recent 4 years) and that yields will be around 1,050 pounds per acre (also the average from 1955-56 through 1958-59), production would be around 300,000 short tons. Production in 1958-59 was only 274,900 short tons, but yields were low because of unfavorable weather at harvest time, whereas the output in 1957-58, a year when yields were fairly good, was 320,000 tons.

THAILAND EXPECTS RECORD
SOYBEAN CROP

Thailand's 1959-60 soybean crop (the interplanted crop harvested in September 1959 and the crop grown in rice paddies after the rice harvest and harvested in March 1960) is expected to reach a record 1.1 million bushels. The nearly 40-percent increase from the previous year is attributed to favorable weather and relatively good market prices. Some farmers turned to production of soybeans as a result of the relatively low price of corn in 1959.

Exports in 1959, largely to Singapore, Penang, and Malaya, totaled 170,000 bushels, over $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the 1958 export volume.

**THAILAND'S TOBACCO TRADE
FALLS OFF IN 1959**

Thailand's imports and exports of unmanufactured tobacco were lower last year than in 1958. Imports totaled 10.7 million pounds, compared with 11.7 million in 1958; exports amounted to 2.6 million, compared with 12.7 million the previous year.

Most of Thailand's tobacco imports are quality U. S. flue-cured leaf for blending with domestic tobaccos of much lower quality in cigarette manufacture.

Thai exports of leaf tobacco in 1959 consisted mostly of low-quality flue-cured tobacco destined for West Germany. There were no exports last year to Mainland China, which took about 9 million pounds in 1958. The average export price of Thai tobacco in 1959 was 28 cents per pound--about 3 cents lower than the 1958 average export price.

**CIGARETTE FACTORY OPENING
IN SIERRA LEONE**

A new cigarette factory will open in Sierra Leone, West Africa, by early May 1960. It will be the first manufacturing enterprise in the British protectorate, which has about the same area and population as West Virginia.

The new factory, near Freetown, will start production at a rate of about 120 million cigarettes annually, but has an eventual capacity of 600 million per year. The cigarettes will sell for about 20 cents per pack of 20. Sierra Leone imports over 200 million cigarettes a year--mainly from the United Kingdom, although a few come from nearby Guinea. Expanded mining activity has increased consumer purchasing power.

Initially, the new factory will use mostly imported tobacco. However, it is hoped that within 5 years domestic production will meet 90 percent of the factory's needs. Farmers in the Makeni area have already been given seed and encouraged to grow flue-cured varieties.

**INDIA'S FLUE-CURED TOBACCO
EXPORTS DOWN IN 1959**

India exported 59.5 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco during the first 9 months of 1959 at an average price equivalent to 39.6 U. S. cents. The volume for the January-September period was 29 percent smaller than the 84 million pounds exported during the corresponding period of 1958.

(Continued on following page)

The United Kingdom continued to be the most-important outlet for India's flue-cured exports last year--taking 33.7 million pounds, or 57 percent of the 9-month total. Export prices to the United Kingdom averaged 52.5 cents per pound.

The next largest market, the Soviet Union, purchased 6.7 million pounds at an average price of 16 cents per pound. Other countries taking at least 1million pounds during the period included Ireland, the Netherlands, Hong Kong, Belgium, French West Africa, and West Germany.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: India, exports of flue-cured tobacco,
January-September 1959

Destination	Quantity	Average price 1/	Destination	Quantity	Average price 1/
United Kingdom	33,678	52.5	Belgium.....	1,883	14.4
Soviet Union..	6,689	16.0	Fr. W. Africa..	1,839	5.4
Ireland.....	4,036	55.3	Germany, West..	1,210	18.6
Netherlands..	3,158	14.6	Others.....	5,080	25.4
Hong Kong....	1,925	12.0	Total....	59,498	39.6

1/ Converted at 1 rupee= 21 U. S. cents.

CANADIAN FLUE-CURED TOBACCO SALES

Sales of Ontario 1959-crop flue-cured tobacco reached 118 million pounds on February 24 at an average price of 56.5 Canadian cents per pound. The first of MH-30 treated tobacco was offered on the open market February 23 without the support of grade prices and moved at about a 10-cent penalty.

The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board recently took action to set the tobacco acreage quota for 1960. Each individual grower will have a 6-acre exemption plus 85 percent of his "Basic Marketable Acreage" (B.M.A.). If a grower has a B.M.A. of 36 acrea his 1960 quota would be 31.5 acres. The total acreage quota for planting in Ontario this year is 131,327 acres. In 1959, it was 117,600 acres, and in 1958 it was 125,000 acres.

The Ontario Burley Tobacco Marketing Board recently announced there would be no Burley acreage allotted in 1960. This is the first suspension in the history of the 25-year old industry. The large stocks of Burley on hand were given as the reason for the decision.

**NEW ZEALAND MEAT SHIPMENTS
TO U.S. IN MARCH AND APRIL**

Eight ships are scheduled to clear New Zealand in March and April carrying approximately 13 million pounds of meat to the United States: about 10 million pounds to the West Coast and 3 million pounds to the East Coast.

The vessels and scheduled sailing dates are: Egyptian Reefer, March 3; Roscommon, March 10; Mariposa, March 12; Himalaya, March 19; Argentinean Reefer, March 24; Monterey, March 29; City of Birkenhead, March 30; Coptic (scheduled to carry about two-thirds of the total), April 8.

**DOMINION WOOL PRICES
DROP IN FEBRUARY**

Dominion wool prices experienced their sharpest decline of the 1959-60 season (July-June) in February. Most types were off about 5 to 6 cents (clean basis) from the average, and some dropped to the closing level of last season. Prices moved downward throughout the month, but early March auction reports indicate a reversal of this trend.

The February decline was attributed to continued heavy auction offerings and an easing of demand in the United Kingdom, where stocks of merino tops have been at record levels.

WOOL: Clean cost per pound, c.o.f. United Kingdom, based on sales in the Dominion and London, specified months

Quality	1959					1960	
	Feb.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
	U. S. dollars						
70's.....	.93	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.19	1.13	
64's.....	.90	1.11	1.11	1.13	1.12	1.06	
60's.....	.84	1.05	1.04	1.06	1.05	.99	
58's.....	.81	.99	.99	.99	.99	.95	
56's.....	.77	.92	.92	.95	.95	.90	
50's.....	.69	.85	.85	.89	.89	.83	
48's.....	.67	.83	.83	.86	.86	.81	
46's.....	.65	.80	.80	.84	.84	.79	

New Zealand Wool Commission (London Agency).

HEAVY RAINS BREAK AUSTRALIAN DROUGHT

The drought that has affected many Australian cattle areas in the past 3 years seems to be ending.

Much of the Northern Territory and southwest Queensland had 1 to 5 inches of rain in late February. (Normally, there is only 5 to 10 inches of rain annually.) These rains, preceded by some moisture in mid-January, have given the cattle industry the best prospects in 3 years.

The Kimberley area of Western Australia and areas further south have had 7 to 10 inches of rain, and pastures have responded well. A big demand for breeding stock is expected, since herds have been reduced during the long drought.

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FRENCH MEAT IMPORT REGULATIONS REPORTED

Since January 1, 1960, when France removed its import restrictions on U.S. variety meats, imports from the United States have risen rapidly.

However, it is reported that some U. S. shipments arriving in France have been improperly marked and accompanied by improper certificates and that may jeopardize future export sales.

The French Ministry of Agriculture requires certain labels on containers and a sanitary certificate by a U. S. meat inspector. One type of certificate is required for meat, another type for live horses and other equines. Certificate forms and labeling instructions were made available to all traders when the import restrictions were removed.

The main complaint on labeling has been marking "U. S. A." on containers in ink that can easily be rubbed off. Requirements call for embossing of the "U. S. A."

MALAYAN 1959 COPRA AND COCONUT OIL NET EXPORTS DOWN 40 PERCENT FROM 1958

Malayan net exports of copra and coconut oil in 1959 totaled 20,362 long tons, oil basis. This represents a decline of nearly 40 percent from 1958 shipments.

Copra exports of 65,685 tons in 1959 were down one-fourth from those of 1958. Shipments to India were off nearly 40 percent. Copra imports in 1959 were down nearly 40 percent to 89,327 tons, reflecting reduced supplies from Indonesia.

Coconut oil exports fell more than 40 percent in 1959. Shipments to Europe were off two-thirds from those of 1958.

COPRA AND COCONUT OIL: Malaya, exports, imports, and net exports,
average 1935-39, annual 1958 and 1959

Country	Copra			Coconut oil		
	Average 1935-39	1958	1959 1/	Average 1935-39	1958	1959 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
North America.....	360	---	---	618	3,547	3,586
South America.....	---	6,500	2,500	4	10	498
Europe:						
Denmark.....	1,745	1,363	488	5	---	---
France.....	14,192	---	---	40	---	246
Germany, West.....	2/ 47,495	1,050	7,743	2/ 398	11,127	1,536
Italy.....	10,487	1,105	1,200	48	12,773	5,256
Netherlands.....	29,585	2,950	7,045	504	5,011	4,666
Norway.....	4,989	1,500	---	41	---	---
Poland.....	3,420	---	---	---	---	---
Spain.....	709	1,213	2,098	---	---	---
Sweden.....	2,641	7,052	2,789	1,383	10	40
U.S.S.R.....	---	---	---	---	11,600	1,000
United Kingdom.....	57,750	50	392	8,858	1,759	1,248
Yugoslavia.....	90	---	---	---	567	---
Other.....	1,296	---	---	62	553	237
Total.....	174,399	16,283	21,755	11,339	43,400	14,229
Africa:						
Egypt.....	4,541	---	---	4,083	857	267
Morocco.....	3/ 99	---	---	3/ 1	---	---
Union of South Africa.....	---	4/	---	547	3,849	3,671
Other.....	---	---	---	309	684	380
Total.....	4,640	4/	---	4,940	5,390	4,318
Asia:						
Burma.....	---	540	1,363	3,458	4,993	4,779
China, Mainland.....	3,926	5,000	---	1,134	959	2,905
China, Taiwan.....	---	1	---	---	683	831
Hong Kong.....	---	---	4/	826	1,522	460
India.....	107	42,845	26,569	19,068	4,899	1,055
Indonesia.....	---	4/	---	3,813	488	185
Iraq.....	---	2,500	2,100	---	150	462
Japan.....	1,676	14,416	10,692	---	---	---
Pakistan.....	---	---	---	---	453	975
Other.....	297	600	706	1,108	1,985	4,962
Total.....	6,006	65,902	41,430	29,407	16,132	16,614
Oceania.....	---	---	---	362	2	1
Grand total.....	5/191,691	88,685	65,685	6/ 47,110	68,481	39,246
IMPORTS						
British Possessions.....	10,278	1,022	2,520	4/	918	1,092
Indonesia.....	105,501	140,074	89,327	329	71	774
Other.....	2,472	3,494	850	246	8	---
Grand total.....	118,251	144,590	92,697	575	997	1,866
Net exports.....	73,440	-55,905	-27,012	46,535	67,484	37,380
Net exports of copra and coconut oil,	:	:	:	:	:	:
copra equivalent.....	147,305	51,212	32,321	:	:	:
oil equivalent.....	:	:	:	92,802	32,264	20,362

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Total Germany. 3/ Territory formerly known as French Morocco. 4/ Less than .5 ton. 5/ Includes 6,286 tons to "other countries". 6/ Includes 440 tons to "other countries".

**U.S. EXPORTS OF BEEF
BREEDING CATTLE DOWN**

U. S. exports of 16,200 beef breeding cattle in 1959 were 12 percent below exports of 18,400 in 1958.

Declines in exports to Venezuela and Cuba accounted for nearly 75 percent of the total decline; shipments to Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Canada also fell off. Political unrest in Cuba and the Dominican Republic was largely responsible for the reduction in exports to these countries. A stringent credit situation contributed to the decline in shipments to Venezuela.

Four breeds accounted for over 90 percent of the total exports: Brahman (52 percent), Hereford (27 percent), Santa Gertrudis (9 percent), and Aberdeen Angus (about 5 percent).

Venezuela continued to be the leading export market, purchasing 41 percent of the shipments; Mexico ranked second, taking 26 percent; and Canada took nearly 10 percent.

The leading exporting states were Texas, Florida, Montana, and New Mexico in that order. Fifty-six percent of total beef breeding cattle exports originated in Texas and 19 percent in Florida.

**BEEF CATTLE, BREEDING: U. S. inspections for export,
by breed, 1958 and 1959**

Breed	1958		1959	
	:Percentage:		:Percentage:	
	Head	of total	Head	of total
Aberdeen Angus.....	947	5.2	783	4.8
Brahman.....	10,843	58.9	8,371	51.7
Brangus.....	315	1.7	199	1.2
Charbray.....	180	1.0	308	1.9
Charolaise.....	503	2.7	354	2.2
Devon.....	25	.1	5	1/
Galloway.....	48	.3	48	.3
Hereford.....	4,100	22.3	4,433	27.4
Red Poll.....	24	.1	20	.1
Santa Gertrudis.....	1,101	6.0	1,493	9.2
Scotch Highland.....	34	.2	6	1/
Shorthorn.....	206	1.1	140	.9
Mixed breeds.....	77	.4	41	.3
Total.....	18,403	100.0	16,201	100.0

1/ Less than .1 of 1 percent.

BEEF CATTLE, BREEDING: U. S. inspections for export, by country of destination, 1959

Destination	Head	Destination	Head
Venezuela.....	6,616	Jamaica.....	60
Mexico.....	5,847	Nicaragua.....	58
Canada.....	1,557	Rumania.....	54
Guatemala.....	515	Honduras.....	35
Philippines.....	512	United Kingdom.....	35
Dominican Republic.....	225	Cuba.....	27
Argentina.....	193	Kenya.....	25
Costa Rica.....	99	Puerto Rico.....	20
British Honduras.....	81	El Salvador	19
Ecuador.....	78	:Other 2/	79
Panama.....	66	:	
	:	Total.....	16,201

2/ Mozambique 12, Leeward Islands 11, Paraguay 11, Peru 10, Yugoslavia 8, Iran 6, U.S.S.R. 6, Hawaii 5, Korea 5, Bolivia 2, Brazil 1, Haiti 1, and Southern Rhodesia 1.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPMENTS
TO U. S. IN FEBRUARY

Two ships left Australia in February with 7,947,520 pounds of frozen beef for the United States.

The City of Edinburgh, which sailed February 19, carried 907,000 pounds destined for New York, 175,000 pounds for Boston, and 257,000 for Chicago. The Pipiriki, sailing on February 25, had a cargo of 5,615,000 pounds destined for New York, 276,000 for Boston, 515,000 for Chicago, and 202,000 for Philadelphia.

The destinations indicate the location of purchasers, and are usually also the ports of arrival and general market areas for the beef; in some instances, beef may be diverted to other areas for sale.

NORWAY FREES IMPORTS OF CANNED FRUIT
COCKTAIL AND CERTAIN DRIED FRUITS

Issuance of import licenses for canned fruit cocktail and dried mixed fruit will be automatic to the free-list area effective April 1, the Norwegian Government has announced. For fruits and vegetables, the free-list area includes the United States. The Government also announced that "until further notice" dried apples and dried pears will not require import licenses.

MEXICAN WINTER VEGETABLE SHIPMENTS, FEBRUARY 16-29

The following winter vegetables from the West Coast of Mexico crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona, during the period February 16-29, 1960 (in thousands of pounds): green corn, 128; cabbage, 2; cucumbers, 292; eggplant, 180; onions, 2; peas, 1,089; peppers, 1,579; string beans, 160; squash, 34; tomatoes, 24,100; and watermelons, 137.

NEW ZEALAND'S DAIRY FARM WORKERS GET PAY RAISE

New Zealand's dairy farm workers received a 24-percent general wage increase effective February 1, 1960. An agreement reached between representatives of the Federated Farmers and the New Zealand Workers' Union cleared the way for the increase.

The new rates include an allowance for weekend and holiday work as part of the normal work week, and are in addition to room and board. The rates for full time employees now range from \$12.62 per week for a worker under 17 years of age to \$28.50 per week for a worker over 21 years of age.

New hourly rates for casual dairy farm workers range from \$0.44 per hour to \$0.77 per hour depending on the type of work, age of worker, and whether room and board are supplied.

U.S. EXPORTS OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS RISE IN JANUARY

U.S. exports of most livestock products in January 1960 were well above a year earlier as a result of generally increased supplies and lower prices.

Substantial gains were made in exports of animal fats, beef and veal, baby food, variety meats, cattle hides, hog casings, and mohair. Shipments of pork, lamb and mutton, canned sausages, kip skins, and sheep and lamb skins were down. The increase in exports of cattle hides and calfskins, following a substantial reduction the previous year, reflects sharply lower prices than those ruling during most of 1959. The high level of lard and tallow shipments in January was due to the competitiveness of U.S. prices and strong foreign demand.

Exports of all major categories except hides and skins were up sharply in 1959. Total value of livestock and meat products shipped in 1959 was \$339 million, compared with \$287 million in 1958 and an average of \$263 million in 1951-55.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: U. S. exports of selected items,
annual 1958 and 1959 and January 1959 and 1960,
with percentage change

(Product weight basis)

Commodity	Annual			January		
	1958	1959	Percent change	1959	1960	Percent change
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Lard.....	388,850:	604,162:	+55	42,149	68,800	+63
Inedible tallow and greases <u>1/</u>	1,119,738:	1,464,274:	+31	120,343	153,781	+28
Edible tallow and greases. <u>2/</u>	13,311:	24,071:	+81	842	1,364	+62
Meat:						
Beef and veal.....	24,772:	27,389:	+11	1,919	2,494	+30
Pork.....	54,248:	70,944:	+31	4,976	4,849	-3
Lamb and mutton.....	744:	804:	+8	94	51	-46
Sausage:						
Except canned.....	2,168:	2,224:	+2	135	177	+31
Canned.....	2,009:	1,246:	-38	89	73	-18
Baby food, canned	1,659:	1,733:	+4	54	167	+209
Other canned.....	5,325:	4,516:	-15	293	318	+9
Total red meats.....	90,925:	108,856:	+20	7,560	8,129	+8
Variety meats.....	69,557:	91,252:	+31	8,251	11,289	+37
Sausage casings:						
Hog.....	8,279:	11,017:	+33	676	793	+17
Other natural.....	8,408:	7,394:	-12	557	581	+4
Mohair.....	13,210:	18,561:	+41	925	1,050	+14
Hides and skins:						
Cattle.....	5,398:	4,155:	-23	341	417	+22
Calf.....	2,353:	1,414:	-40	123	131	+7
Kip.....	715:	483:	-32	43	34	-21
Sheep and lamb.....	1,365:	1,927:	+41	129	48	-63

1/ Includes inedible tallow, oleic acid or red oil, stearic acid, and other inedible animal greases, fats, and oils. 2/ Includes edible tallow, oleo oil and stearin, oleo stock and shortenings, animal fat, excluding lard.

NEW COFFEE SHOPS PLANNED FOR BERLIN

A firm in Hamburg, West Germany, plans to open 50 coffee shops in West Berlin by the end of 1960. Five shops have already been opened, and another 5 will open in March. The Hamburg firm owns about 180 shops in the Federal Republic, and its share of the market is said to amount to about 2 percent.

INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT TAKING OVER KAPOK EXPORTS

The Government of Indonesia is buying all shares held by private individuals in the country's largest kapok exporting corporation. Production of kapok on privately owned estates has been between 70 and 80 million pounds annually, of which roughly 10 percent was exported as raw fiber. The United States imports the largest amount of Indonesian kapok, followed by Australia, West Germany, Belgium, and Italy.

NIGERIA'S COCOA EXPORTS UP SHARPLY LAST YEAR

Nigeria's 1959 exports of cocoa beans totaled 320,000 million pounds valued at \$107 million. Only 196 million pounds were exported in 1958. On the basis of January-November data, the largest buyer last year was the United Kingdom, followed by the Netherlands and the United States.

The 1959-60 cacao crop is now expected to be larger than estimated earlier, mainly because of exceptionally good weather, production from new plantings, and benefits from spray control measures against capsids and black pod funguses.

EGYPT'S ADVERSE TRADE BALANCE CONTINUES

Egypt had an adverse trade balance of \$176 million in 1959, \$43 million less than that reported for 1958. Exports were off, but there was a greater reduction in imports.

Egypt's exports to the United States were valued at \$6 million during 1959, down \$3 million from the previous year and \$16 million below the 1957 value. On the other hand, imports from the United States, mostly under government programs, were \$35 million ahead of 1958 imports.

Despite efforts to increase trade with the West, 52 percent (\$228 million) of Egypt's total exports during 1959 went to Communist countries, and 30 percent (\$183 million) of all imports came from these countries.

Agricultural commodities contribute over 80 percent of all Egypt's export earnings; and they account for 20 to 25 percent of the total value of all imports. Cotton is by far the most important export, followed by rice, and onions. The leading agricultural imports are wheat, flour, tobacco, vegetable oils, and coarse grains.

EGYPT: Balance of trade, 1958 and 1959

Trade	1958		1959	
	: Mil. U. S. : dollars	Percent : of total	: Mil. U. S. : dollars	Percent : of total
Exports to--	:	:	:	:
United States.....	9	2	6	1
Communist areas.....	221	47	228	52
Western Europe.....	134	29	117	27
Africa and Asia.....	99	21	83	19
Others.....	4	1	5	1
Total 1/	467	100	439	100
Imports from--	:	:	:	:
United States.....	51	8	86	14
Communist areas.....	219	32	183	30
Western Europe.....	317	46	269	44
Africa and Asia.....	84	12	69	11
Others.....	15	2	8	1
Total 1/	686	100	615	100
Trade deficit.....	219	--	176	--

1/ Excluding trade with the Syrian Region.

Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade (Government Press, Cairo, 1959) and other sources.

MOROCCAN SUGAR INDUSTRY ENVISIONED

Belgian and Dutch industrialists are investigating the possibilities of developing a sugar industry in Morocco and have entered into an agreement with other interested parties to participate in organizing a new sugar company. This will necessitate research on cultivation and refining of sugarcane or sugar beets in Morocco. One of the first objectives is construction of an experimental refinery at Port Lyautey.

SWISS DONATING DAIRY PRODUCTS

The Swiss Government will donate \$1.4 million worth of surplus dairy products for distribution to "underfed populations" abroad during the next 3 years. Donations will be made through international relief organizations and will consist mainly of nonfat dry milk, of which about 1 million pounds will be made available the first year.

CUBA SELLS EGGS TO VENEZUELA

Cuba recently announced that it has sold 228,000 dozen eggs to Venezuela and will be shipping a total of 900,000 dozen under a letter of credit. According to Cuban sources, Venezuela is paying between 45 and 48 cents per dozen. Eggs from the United States have been selling in recent weeks at 38 to 39 cents, c.i.f. La Guaira.

YUGOSLAV 1959 CASTOR BEAN CROP LARGEST ON RECORD

Yugoslavia's 1959 castor bean crop is now estimated at a record 11,000 short tons from 16,655 acres. This is double an earlier estimate of last year's outturn and more than double the 4,740 tons produced from 8,650 acres in 1958.

The castor bean crop is regularly contract for by the oil mills in Yugoslavia for production of technical oil. Trade in castor beans and castor oil by Yugoslavia is relatively small.

AUSTRALIAN CANNED FRUIT PROSPECTS FOR 1960

The 1960 Australian canned fruit pack is estimated to be larger than in 1959, although smaller than that of 1958.

The Victorian apricot crop this season was considerably better than last year, and it is estimated that the 1959 pack will amount to about 570,000 cases on a No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ can basis, compared with 449,000 cases in 1959 and 891,000 cases in 1958.

It is estimated that the total canned peach pack this season will approximate 1.9 million cases (No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ can basis), compared with 1.71 million cases in 1959 and 2.29 million cases in 1958.

As production of canning pears in the principal producing areas is expected to be substantially higher than last year it is estimated that the 1960 pack of canned pears will amount to 2.25 million cases, compared with 2.02 million cases in 1959 and 2.23 million cases in 1958--all on a No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ can basis.

The following minimum prices for Australian canned fruits, c.i.f U.K. ports, have been established by the Australian Canned Fruits Board for the 1960 season:

CANNED FRUITS: Australian minimum prices per dozen cans, in sterling currency, c.i.f. United Kingdom ports, 1960 season

Commodity and grade	Per dozen		
	No. 2½'s	No. 1's	8-oz.
			:
Apricots, halves:	:	:	:
Choice.....	:22s.	6d.:13s.	9d.:9s.
Standard.....	:21s.	:13s.	:8s. 6d.
Seconds.....	:20s.	:12s.	3d.:8s.
Clingstone peaches, halves and slices:	:	:	:
Choice.....	:24s.	:14s.	9d.:9s. 6d.
Standard.....	:22s.	6d.:14s.	:9s.
Seconds.....	:21s.	6d.:13s.	3d.:8s. 6d.
Freestone peaches, halves and slices:	:	:	:
Choice.....	:22s.	3d.:13s.	9d.:9s.
Standard.....	:20s.	9d.:13s.	:8s. 6d.
Seconds.....	:19s.	9d.:12s.	6d.:8s.
Pears, halves and quarters:	:	:	:
Choice.....	:26s.	:16s.	3d.:10s.
Standard.....	:24s.	6d.:15s.	6d.:9s. 4½d.
Seconds.....	:23s.	6d.:15s.	:9s.
Two-fruits:	:	:	:
Choice.....	:24s.	:14s.	6d.:9s. 6d.
Standard.....	:22s.	6d.:13s.	9d.:9s.
Seconds.....	:21s.	6d.:13s.	3d.:8s. 6d.
Fruit cocktail:	:	:	:
Choice.....	:28s.	:17s.	: ---
Standard.....	:26s.	6d.:16s.	3d.: ---
Seconds.....	:25s.	6d.:15s.	9d.: ---

Compared with last season's minimum sterling prices per dozen No. 2½ cans, this season's prices represent a decrease of 2s. for Clingstone peaches, 1s. for apricots, 6d. for pears, 2s. for fruit cocktail, and 1s. 6d. for mixed two-fruits.

CANADA'S UNHARVESTED GRAIN ESTIMATED LARGE

Canada's Dominion Bureau of Statistics recently estimated unharvested grain in the Prairie Provinces as follows, in million bushels: wheat 56.0, oats 26.5, barley 25.9, rye 0.3. On the basis of these estimates, 14 percent of the Grain Belt's total wheat production remains unharvested. Unthreshed barley is 12 percent of the estimated total production, oats 10 percent, and rye 5 percent.

More than half of the unthreshed wheat is in Saskatchewan and about a third in Alberta. The largest amount of unharvested barley and oats is in Alberta, though considerable quantities are also in Saskatchewan.

U. K. GRAIN PROSPECTS GENERALLY GOOD

Fall-sown wheat wintered well in the United Kingdom and is in generally satisfactory condition, despite some damage from frost and water-logging.

The estimated area of fall-sown wheat in England and Wales at the beginning of December 1959 was 1.4 million acres. This is well above the small seedings of 1.1 million acres in 1958 and is surprisingly large considering the difficulties and delays in cultivation for fall seeding. The difficulties were due to hardness of the ground prolonged summer as a result of the prolonged summer drought.

The larger-than-normal acreage of winter wheat may mean reduced spring wheat acreage, since official policy discourages increases in total wheat acreage. The larger proportion of winter wheat is a favorable factor in the crop outlook, as winter wheat normally gives somewhat higher yields than spring wheat.

U. S. WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS CONTINUE UPTREND

Preliminary estimates indicate that U. S. wheat and flour exports during February were close to 47 million bushels. This would be 38 percent above the 34 million bushels exported in February 1959. As a result, exports during the first 8 months (July-February) of 1959-60 will be well above those during the same period last season. Highlight of the February exports was a sizable increase in exports of wheat under Title I of Public Law 480.

U. S. wheat exports during July-January 1959-60 were 195 million bushels, about 3 percent below the comparable period in 1958-59. Flour exports were approximately 8 percent above the 46 million bushels (in grain equivalent) a year earlier. However, the increased movement of flour was not sufficient to offset lower wheat exports, so total exports were 1.3 million bushels below a year earlier.

The largest decrease in wheat exports was in shipments to India, which took only 46 million bushels in July-January 1959-60, compared with 71 million bushels the year before. There were also sizable decreases in shipment to West Germany and the United Kingdom. In contrast, exports to Brazil increased by 9 million bushels and to Egypt by 11 million. Other countries taking more grain were Venezuela, Pakistan, and Turkey.

The overall increase in flour exports resulted primarily from larger shipments to Egypt. Exports to Italy, Indonesia, and Ceylon also increased slightly. Flour exports to Venezuela and the Philippines declined.

**WHEAT AND FLOUR: U.S. exports by country of destination
July-January 1958-59 and July-January 1959-60**

Country of destination	July-January 1958-59			July-January 1959-60		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
Western Hemisphere:	:	:	:	:	:	:
British West Indies	13	1,644	1,657	38	1,050	1,088
Central America	762	2,353	3,115	1,439	2,063	3,502
Cuba	2,937	1,520	4,457	2,960	1,247	4,207
Brazil	16,382	--	16,382	25,024	25	25,049
Colombia	1,661	424	2,085	335	364	699
Peru	3,199	433	3,632	2,491	157	2,648
Venezuela	1,319	2,221	3,540	5,012	244	5,256
Others	1,038	2,840	3,878	2,424	3,194	5,618
Total	27,311	11,435	38,746	39,723	8,344	48,067
Europe:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Austria	805	36	841	1,240	61	1,301
Belgium-Luxembourg	2,981	12	2,993	1,943	11	1,954
Finland	278	--	278	--	--	--
Germany, West	12,067	317	12,384	7,908	314	8,222
Greece	393	1,059	1,452	128	1,462	1,590
Italy	--	3,572	3,572	546	5,136	5,682
Netherlands	5,135	2,317	7,452	3,132	2,214	5,346
Norway	2,167	468	2,635	1,382	264	1,646
Poland	9,499	150	9,649	9,953	351	10,304
Sweden	2,020	18	2,038	37	40	77
United Kingdom	15,417	2,324	17,741	9,985	442	10,427
Yugoslavia	7,712	2,313	10,025	8,619	1,775	10,394
Others	1,901	455	2,356	2,005	558	2,563
Total	60,375	13,041	73,416	46,878	12,628	59,506
Asia:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Ceylon	--	1,751	1,751	--	2,244	2,244
India	70,678	33	70,711	46,017	27	46,044
Indonesia	--	2/	2/	10	1,899	1,909
Israel	4,887	118	5,005	3,431	102	3,533
Japan	17,134	1,469	18,603	15,854	1,554	17,408
Jordan	--	347	347	1,483	477	1,960
Korea	6,189	1,272	7,461	4,887	1,003	5,890
Lebanon	1,519	1,541	3,060	407	1,916	2,323
Pakistan	4,964	170	5,134	9,116	227	9,343
Philippines	390	6,461	6,851	515	2,833	3,348
Taiwan (Formosa)	4,136	519	4,655	6,081	666	6,747
Turkey	1,003	--	1,003	2,871	13	2,884
Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia	--	1,597	1,597	--	1,429	1,429
Others	374	2,478	2,852	1,193	2,521	3,714
Total	111,274	17,756	129,030	91,865	16,911	108,776
Africa:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canary Islands	--	--	--	1,597	3	1,600
Egypt	2	861	863	11,193	9,253	20,446
Tunisia	607	17	624	1,266	32	1,298
Union of South Africa	--	--	--	1,097	2/	1,097
Others	970	3,325	4,295	1,792	3,157	4,949
Total	1,579	4,203	5,782	16,945	12,445	29,390
Oceania	--	22	22	--	25	25
Unspecified	--	16	16	--	--	--
World total 3/	200,539	46,473	247,012	195,411	50,353	245,764

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat (grain equivalent). 2/ Less than 500 bushels.
3/ Includes shipments for relief or charity.

CANADA REVISES GRAIN CARRYOVER ESTIMATES

Grain carryover stocks in Canada on July 31, 1959, were slightly larger than originally estimated, according to revised official figures.

Wheat stocks in all positions on that date are now placed at 549 million bushels, of which 76 percent was in commercial positions and 24 percent remained on farms. Barley carryover is now placed at 128 million bushels, oats at 119 million, and rye at 7.9 million.

Comparable figures for carryover stocks on July 31, 1958 were, in million bushels: wheat 639, barley 118, oats 155, rye 10.

U.S. GRASS AND LEGUME SEED EXPORTS UP FROM LAST SEASON

U.S. exports of grass and legume seeds during July 1959-January 1960 totaled 29.1 million pounds, an increase of 14 percent from the 25.5 million pounds shipped in the first 7 months of the 1958-59 crop year. Canada was the principal market, taking 5.3 million pounds. The second largest market was Italy (4.4 million pounds). France, the United Kingdom, West Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, and Japan were shipped substantial quantities.

In January, the largest shipments went to Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

GRASS AND LEGUME SEEDS: U.S. exports, January 1960,
with comparisons

Kind of seed	January		July 1 - Jan. 31	
	1959	1960	1958-59	1959-60
	:1,000 lb.	:1,000 lb.	:1,000 lb.	:1,000 lb.
Alfalfa, certified.....	1,152	1,296	3,663	3,782
Alfalfa, uncertified.....	2,008	1,025	3,036	3,272
Alfalfa, total.....	3,160	2,321	6,699	7,054
Alsike.....	70	39	387	301
Ladino.....	139	231	1,031	1,067
Clovers, other.....	1,002	352	2,801	2,623
Bentgrass.....	660	843	2,486	2,976
Fescue.....	136	671	2,987	3,274
Kentucky bluegrass.....	237	127	1,367	276
Orchard.....	48	24	308	91
Redtop.....	89	17	331	261
Timothy.....	307	964	1,870	2,163
Grasses, other.....	1,823	2,061	5,282	9,043
Total.....	7,671	7,650	25,549	29,129

U. S. RICE EXPORTS UNUSUALLY LARGE IN JANUARY

U. S. rice exports in January totaled 1,790,000 cwt. (100 pounds) in terms of milled, more than double the 808,000 cwt. exported in January 1959. Exports to Asia accounted for 59 percent; those to Europe and Western Hemisphere were each 17 percent of the total. The principal destinations were Indonesia, Cuba, and Ceylon.

Rice exports in the first half (August-January) of the 1959-60 marketing year were 8,885,000 cwt., compared with 6,103,000 cwt. in the same months of 1958-59. Exports to all continents except the Western Hemisphere increased sharply.

August-January exports to Cuba, at 1,790,000 cwt., were 557,000 cwt. less than in the same period of 1958-59. However, exports of 460,000 cwt. to other Western Hemisphere countries were 147,000 cwt. more.

LAND BOUGHT IN PARAGUAY FOR JAPANESE COLONISTS

A Japanese agency recently purchased about 200,000 acres of agricultural land in eastern Paraguay for colonization purposes.

Approximately 2,000 Japanese farmers and their families are to be settled on this land over a period of 3 years. The land was bought by the Japan Overseas Emigration Corporation, a semi-governmental agency, which will handle the moving and settling of the immigrants and the development of the land.

The newly purchased land is in the Department of Alto Parana and is suitable for the cultivation of citrus fruits, yerbe mate (Paraguayan tea), soybeans, rice, corn, and tung nuts.

The recent purchase is in accordance with a long-range immigration agreement signed in 1959 by the governments of Paraguay and Japan. The agreement allows for the settlement of 85,000 Japanese in Paraguay over a period of 30 years. A 6-member Mixed Paraguayan-Japanese Immigration Commission, 3 members of which are chosen by each government, is responsible for overall planning. Under terms of the agreement, the yearly quota of Japanese immigrants is limited to 3,500. This is considerably more than the total annual number of all immigrants coming into Paraguay in recent years.

The first of the Japanese immigrating groups, 240 families, was scheduled to leave Japan this month and will be settled on a tract of land purchased earlier.

JAPAN REDUCES
RICE IMPORTS

Due to increased rice production, Japan's rice imports have declined sharply in recent years. Planned purchases of foreign rice in Japanese fiscal year 1959 (April 1959-March 1960), at 204,900 metric tons (4,517,000 cwt.), were less than 20 percent of average rice imports of 1,107,000 tons (24.4 million cwt.) in 1951-55.

In the first half (April-September) of fiscal year 1959, only 4,900 tons (108,000 cwt.) of rice flour were purchased, and in the second half (October 1959-March 1960), purchases of 200,000 (4,409,000 cwt.) were planned. Actual purchases in the third quarter (October-December) however, were only 50,000 tons (1,102,000 cwt.) of short-grain rice. This leaves 150,000 tons (3,307,000 cwt.) to be purchased in the final quarter (January-March 1960).

It is reported that no foreign rice will be purchased in the first half (April-September) of the 1960-61 fiscal year.

RICE: Japanese imports, 1954-59

Country of origin	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: cwt.					
Burma.....	7,210	5,200	5,880	2,340	1,352	560
Communist China.....	1,660	2,930	2,480	1/	1,898	0
Egypt.....	0	230	780	0	1,283	0
Indochina.....	1,020	0	0	230	2/ 88	3/ 176
Italy.....	1,480	1,450	710	0	690	0
Spain.....	1,070	630	1,260	0	867	441
Taiwan.....	960	4,030	1,970	2,540	4,202	3,307
Thailand.....	8,370	7,510	2,870	2,540	763	1,683
United States.....	7,620	5,360	450	10	0	0
Uruguay.....	210	0	340	0	0	0
Other countries.....	1,980	140	10	0	1/	0
Total.....	31,580	27,480	16,750	7,660	11,143	6,167

1/ Less than 500 cwt. of 100 pounds each. 2/ From Cambodia. 3/ 117,000 cwt. from Republic of Vietnam, and 59,000 from Cambodia.

Compiled from official sources.

JAPANESE-CANADIAN WHEAT
AGREEMENT SIGNED

The Food Agency of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Canadian Wheat Board on February 12 signed an agreement covering future Canadian wheat sales to Japan. The agreement, effective until July 31, 1960, will be extended indefinitely unless a revision is requested by either party.

Under the agreement, the Canadian Wheat Board gives up its "seller's option" rights on delivery of No. 2 and No. 3 Manitoba to Japan. Heretofore, Japanese purchase tenders were for No. 2 and No. 3 Manitoba without specification as to the grade to be shipped. The decision was left to the Canadian board, which shipped approximately equal quantities of each grade. However, Japan indicated that it prefers the bulk of the shipments to be No. 3 Manitoba since that grade meets the quality requirements of most of its hard wheat users. Moreover, it is 1,000 yen (\$2.78) per metric ton cheaper than No. 2 Manitoba, which is needed only in relatively small quantities.

Japan is now to advise Canada at least 6 weeks in advance of the approximate quantities of each grade it wishes to buy during a specified month. The Canadian Wheat Board in turn agrees to reserve supplies of wheat for the Japanese Food Agency and to keep the agency informed as to quantities of each grade reserved, along with asking price f.o.b. Canadian Pacific Coast ports, and the prevailing rate of exchange of the Canadian dollar.

TRANSSHIPMENTS OF MEXICAN
COTTON DOWN IN NOVEMBER

Transhipments of Mexican cotton through U. S. ports were 42,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in November 1959, down 70 percent from the 141,000 bales transshipped in October, and 45 percent below 76,000 bales in November 1958. However, total transshipments of 411,000 bales during the first 4 months (August-November) of this season were 19 percent larger than the 345,000 bales transshipped in the corresponding period of 1958.

Principal destinations during August-November 1959, with comparable 1958 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 76,000 bales (91,000); Japan 73,000 (9,000); France 69,000 (4,000); United Kingdom 35,000 (51,000); Italy 35,000 (58,000); Netherlands 29,000 (16,000); Switzerland 19,000 (17,000); Belgium 19,000 (38,000); and Canada 11,000 (11,000).

U. S. ports through which most of the Mexican cotton transshipments moved in the August-November 1959 period, were: Brownsville 383,000 bales; San Diego 13,000; Oakland 5,000; Los Angeles 3,000; Long Beach 2,000; Houston 2,000; San Francisco 1,000 and Detroit 1,000.

MEXICO'S BEAN IMPORTS
EXPECTED TO PICK UP

Mexican trade circles and CEIMSA (a semi-governmental agency responsible for regulating food supply) forecast Mexico's 1960 imports of beans at 450,000 bags (100-lb.).

Although this is only half as many beans as Mexico imported in 1958 and 1959, it is double the average imports of the preceding 4 years. (Almost all of Mexico's bean imports come from the United States.) Imports are expected to pick up in April or May.

Sizable stocks are reported to be still on hand from the bumper 1959 harvest completed in December. Although late-season flood damage was severe in some localities, it was not extensive enough to necessitate revision of the November official estimate of the crop--10,250,000 bags, compared with 9,700,000 in 1958 and an average of 5,841,000 in 1950-54.

Mexico's bean consumption is rising at the rate of 3 percent, or 300,000 bags, annually. While production has also been increasing, it is not keeping pace with consumption, as indicated in the following data on exports of U. S. beans to Mexico:

Calendar year	: 1,000 bags 1/	Calendar year	: 1,000 bags 1/
:	:	:	:
Average:		: 1955.....	233
Pre-1951.....	2	: 1956.....	220
1951.....	326	: 1957.....	180
1952.....	1,533	: 1958.....	931
1953.....	883	: 1959.....	913
1954.....	285	: 1960 forecast.....	450

1/ 100 pounds each.

PHILIPPINE COPRA, COCONUT OIL EXPORTS
UP SHARPLY AT SEASON'S START

Philippine copra and coconut oil exports in January and February totaled 95,326 long tons, oil basis, a gain of 65 percent from the first 2 months of 1959.

Copra exports of 136,729 long tons were up 80 percent while coconut oil shipments were down 8 percent to 9,187 tons.

Desiccated coconut shipments of 6,220 short tons in January and February were up nearly 60 percent from the first 2 months of 1959.

The copra export price in mid-March was about \$219.50 per per long ton f.o.b. Philippine ports. Local buying prices were reported at 45.50 to 46.50 pesos per 100 kilograms (\$231.15 to \$236.23 per long ton) reseccada Manila and 42.00 to 46.00 pesos (213.37 to \$233.69) in producing areas.

COPRA: Philippine Republic, exports by country of destination,
February and January-February 1959 and 1960

Country of destination:	February		January-February	
	1959 1/	1960 1/	1959 1/	1960 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
North America:				
United States.....	17,850	21,550	32,244	46,535
Atlantic Coast.....	{ ---}	{ ---)	{ ---)	{ ---}
Pacific Coast.....	(17,850)	(21,550)	(32,244)	(46,535)
Canada.....	---	---	---	---
Haiti.....	---	---	---	---
Panama.....	---	---	---	---
Panama Canal Zone.....	---	---	---	---
Total.....	<u>17,850</u>	<u>21,550</u>	<u>32,244</u>	<u>46,535</u>
South America:				
Chile.....	---	---	---	---
Colombia.....	---	---	---	---
Venezuela.....	1,100	---	2,906	2,902
Unspecified.....	---	---	---	---
Total.....	<u>1,100</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>2,906</u>	<u>2,902</u>
Europe:				
Belgium-Luxembourg....	---	---	---	---
Denmark.....	---	1,000	500	3,000
France.....	---	---	---	---
Germany, West.....	3,000	2,650	6,330	4,750
Italy.....	---	---	---	1,000
Netherlands.....	13,439	29,600	27,754	59,250
Norway.....	---	2,000	500	3,000
Spain.....	3,000	---	3,500	---
Sweden.....	---	---	500	---
Optional discharge 2/	379	13,800	379	15,800
Total.....	<u>19,818</u>	<u>49,050</u>	<u>39,463</u>	<u>86,800</u>
Asia:				
Israel.....	---	---	---	---
Japan.....	---	---	---	492
Korea, South.....	---	---	---	---
Lebanon.....	---	---	---	---
Syria.....	---	---	1,500	---
Total.....	<u>---</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>492</u>
Grand total....	<u>38,768</u>	<u>70,600</u>	<u>76,113</u>	<u>136,729</u>

1/ Preliminary. 2/ West Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, or Sweden.

COCONUT OIL: Philippine Republic, exports by country of destination,
February and January-February 1959 and 1960

Country of destination:	February		January-February	
	1959 1/	1960 1/	1959 1/	1960 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
North America:				
United States.....	3,469	3,879	9,164	9,187
Atlantic Coast.....	{ 3,469)	{ 3,534)	{ 8,165)	{ 8,541)
Pacific Coast.....	(---)	(345)	(999)	(646)
Cuba.....	---	---	---	---
Total.....	<u>3,469</u>	<u>3,879</u>	<u>9,164</u>	<u>9,187</u>
Europe:				
Netherlands.....	797	---	797	---
Total.....	<u>797</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>797</u>	<u>---</u>
Grand total....	<u>4,266</u>	<u>3,879</u>	<u>9,961</u>	<u>9,187</u>

1/ Preliminary.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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(PMGC)

Official Business

U. S. COTTON IMPORTS
UP SLIGHTLY THIS SEASON

U. S. imports of cotton for consumption during the first 6 months (August-January) of the 1959-60 season (based on reports of the Bureau of the Census) were 127,000 bales (500 pounds gross) -- up 3 percent from imports of 123,000 bales in the corresponding period a year earlier.

Principal sources of imports during August-January 1959-60, all under quota except short harsh Asiatic cotton, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: Egypt 67,000 bales (58,000); Mexico 38,000 (33,000); Peru 15,000 (25,000); India 2,000 (2,000); Pakistan 2,000 (2,000); Sudan 1,000 (1,000); and Brazil 1,000 (1,000).

Imports during January amounted to 2,284 bales, compared with 1,541 bales in December, and 1,009 in January 1959.

U. S. COTTON LINTERS IMPORTS
LARGER IN JANUARY

U. S. imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, were 19,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in January. This was 27 percent above the 15,000 bales imported in both December and January 1959.

Linters imports in the first 6 months (August-January) of the 1959-60 season amounted to 90,000 bales--up slightly from 89,000 a year earlier. Principal sources during August-January 1959-60, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 67,000 bales (71,000); U. S. S. R. 14,000 (8,000); Guatemala 3,000 (351); El Salvador 2,000 (5,000); Belgium 1,000 (163); Peru 1,000 (287); Nicaragua 1,000 (4,000); and Turkey 1,000 (0).